



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1997

No. 148

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

In all the moments of life or death we are grateful, Almighty God, that Your Spirit is with us to give strength when we are weak, to nurture us along life's way, and to sustain us with the promise of everlasting life.

We remember with gratitude and love our friend and colleague, WALTER CAPPS, a Member of this assembly, who died last night. We recall his winsome presence and his abiding confidence in the goals of justice for every person, of equality in the eyes of government, and of understanding and unity between people of differing traditions and backgrounds. Our prayers reach out to his family and those near and dear to him, that they will be supported by Your perfect grace, O God, and sustained by Your love and care.

Remind us, O God, of those concerns that were close to his heart, and bring us together in greater understanding until we meet again. "So teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12). Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York [Mr. McNULTY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2107) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes."

### EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF HON. WALTER H. CAPPS, REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 286) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOBSON). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### H. RES. 286

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable WALTER H. CAPPS, a Representative from the State of California.

*Resolved*, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

*Resolved*, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by expressing the deep appreciation of all those assembled for the eloquent prayer offered by our Chaplain, Jim Ford, who is not only a great leader in times of distress but in this case a close personal friend of the deceased, our friend, WALTER CAPPS.

I hope we have an opportunity today and later this week to have many Members come to the floor to express their strong feelings about WALTER CAPPS. There is much good to remember, even though his time with us was rather brief. We have yet to even reach the anniversary of his election, and obviously he did not serve the entire first year of his term. But WALTER CAPPS had made an impact here because of his wisdom, his maturity, his sense of proportion, and his bipartisan goodwill.

A professor from the University of California at Santa Barbara for over 30 years, he came here and quickly developed the ability of a pragmatic and effective politician and public servant, without losing the perspective of someone who had spent his life studying religion and its effect on the human soul. He was truly ecumenical in his ability to communicate between religions and here across party lines.

WALTER CAPPS is the kind of individual who rarely comes our way. It is obviously a great loss when we have failed to get from his public service the benefits that we could have easily anticipated.

His wife, Lois, is here today, as she has been with him, inseparable from the moment he began his quest for Congress in 1994. We offer her our great condolence and sympathy and support, and hope that their three children, Lisa, Todd, and Laura, as well as their grandson, David, will be held in the hearts of all those who, in the next week particularly, will be praying for the Capps family.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], our leader.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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